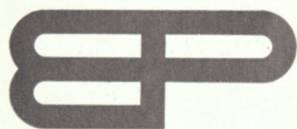


## This is a black and white abstract artwork by Robert Rauschenberg, titled 'Diamonds'. The piece is a complex, symmetrical composition featuring a dense, geometric pattern of white lines and shapes on a black background. The pattern is highly intricate, with many sharp, angular forms that resemble facets of a diamond or a crystal structure. The overall effect is one of intense visual complexity and a sense of depth, as the various geometric elements seem to overlap and recede. The artwork is a square format, and the pattern is centered, with the most complex and dense areas in the middle, tapering off towards the edges. The use of high contrast between the white lines and the black background creates a strong, graphic quality.





## BLOCKPRINT

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January 22, 1968

Dear Blockprint,

I left RISD almost a year ago; thanks to a student, I have received your paper on a fairly regular basis and having read a recent Blockprint (Jan. 8-14), I'd like to comment on one of the "Letters to the Editor" (specifically, that of Gilbert M. Gaubinger's in regard to Charlie Leonard). I do not profess to know either of these gentleman but, if the opinions expressed by Gaubinger are any indication of the general opinion of RISD's population, then I say that those who are seniors are lucky to be leaving. True, I have seen similar articles in the past but none with such warped intentions — "Maxims . . . for those who may be so unfortunate to be going the same route."

The Draft is not fair in many respects; this I agree, but the draft is far from being an enemy, the draft being more feared by some than the real enemy itself. It will take quite a while to revamp the draft organization and I cannot begin to fathom how this could be done but I'm sure that Gaubinger, having once suffered "the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune", will be content to sit back complacently and let things ride — to preach how rotten things are and not do anything about it.

It is quite apparent by his letter that the army didn't do much for him. Now I ask him — what did he ever do for the army? The service is one institution that is hard to beat for benefits and what one gets out of it is what one puts into it.

At the moment I'm stationed at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico with the rank of Airman First Class. I am one of a four-man weapons load crew for the 481st Tactical Fighter Squadron. I've been through basic training where "The sergeants want you for something, then had you do something else" — and I've been through technical training where "The guy who has been kicked around all his life gets a little power and uses it because he has it." That's where all the crap ends — in basic and technical training. The men here have a very

important job to do and those with the "power" know it and expect the job to be done. When it isn't, someone "buys the farm", but tell me where the situation is any different.

As for "leaving the company area whenever possible . . . out of sight out of mind . . ." I can only say that people often miss the significance of the company of other human beings. The service is a melting pot for all assortments of views, ideas, opinions, and experiences. Granted, being somewhere else every so often helps to relieve the "Hum-drum life with the same routine day after day . . ." but the days are as dull as you make them. I've got a wonderful, self-respecting girl, a girl I haven't seen for eight months. I'll be going home again in May with hopes of seeing her for the first time in almost a year — something to look forward to. All that is needed is a little imagination, something everyone has a great deal of at RISD, which makes the day's far from routine.

I volunteered, another "maxim" to look out for! My hitch in the Air Force promises to be a unique experience. People at RISD are, I'm sure interested in new experiences and the service could prove to be one of them.

So as you stand "on the carpet" in front of a draft board, don't let an "Act of Congress or a wild herd of elephants" force you in, don't go "kicking and screaming" — accept it and if you say, "I love my freedom too much." stop and think whose freedom you're talking about. The cause of freedom will make demands on quite a few individuals, most of them saying, "Why me?" Why not YOU! There are those who have made the supreme sacrifice in a cause they believe in — the freedom you love too much — God help us if we believe those lives were given in vain.

H. S. ("Doc") Blake  
AIO, AF011903255

P.S. Best wishes to those I know, to those who made my stay at RISD one of the most enlightening experiences I've ever known and to the Blockprint staff for the fine work in Blockprint.



## LETTERS

To the editor:

There appears to be another purge of the student body imminent, and another group of "undesirables" are going to be flushed from our ranks by the conservative administration. Whether or not these students do leave is almost immaterial, but what really matters is the fact that they are even being considered for this perfunctory elimination process.

When a school like RISD goes to the great trouble to find "talented" students to fill each incoming class it has to accept consciously that some of the students will be more animated and/or radical by nature. The inevitable comparison between Brown and RISD may be made, but it is not really valid since two entirely different educational processes are being exercised. However, when the RISD administration attempts to cull the best aspects from the traditional liberal arts program and impose them upon a student body that is oriented in a different direction, there is going to be internal conflict.

What seems to be happening is that the radical or opinionated student is gradually disappearing due to a fault of the system — not necessarily his own actions. The trouble with the loss of these few students is that the rest of the students lose their few gadflies. "Ahhhh, good," says the Board of Trustees and administration, "we've gotten rid of students who point out our shortcomings and concerned conservative perspective. (Period)." And that is as far as they go. This is wrong from the student's point of view for two reasons: (1) The administration will eventually strangle the school in the long run — witness the resignation of Dr.

Bush-Brown partially due to conflict of goals with the trustees — witness the last editorial from BLOCKPRINT about salaries — witness the elimination (past and threatened) of a minority of students who care enough to speak up, whether they are right or wrong; (2) The removal of those students deflates the rest of the student body's potential creativity. This is a short range view, because it is immediate, it is the more vital. A RISD student body should not mirror a Brown-Pembroke establishment.

Possibly the administration does not see where it is leading its charges but if it really does know that its students are ART students, not History or Economics majors, and it continues to go this way, then something is very wrong.

The administration may not want students who confront them around, but they ought to NEED them.

Sincerely,  
Peter Whiteley  
'68 Grapics

5 February 1968

Dear Blockprint,

I wish to thank you for your rewarding, inspiring, informative, and delightfully mature presentation of a sadly failing magazine.

Writers like Peggy, Chickenhearts and Gerry DelMonte; talented designers like Julie Taylor; and Editors like Furman and Silberstein are certainly a credit to your fine publication. They reflect a new drive that promises hope to longtime Blockprint backers.

Really,  
Peter R. Taibeaut  
Industrial Design '69

(As the present editor, I would like to thank you and would also like to add a thanks to managing editor, Jinx Rubin.)

ED

(We are orientated in a different direction but may I add that we live in a liberal arts society, not an art society.

It has been made quite clear to this editor that the President did not give up with his hands high (as you insinuate), he resigned to allow the trustees to reconsider their position.

As far as the salaries are concerned, yes, they are low, but they have been steadily rising every year. That could hardly be branded as strangulation.

Finally, anyone who expects to create their own little utopia at RISD (or any other school) is in for a shock.) EDITOR





## HYDRA

Hydra, Hydra, Hydra . . . a mani-fold "evil." Which is not to be overcome by a single effort . . . it certainly wasn't. Despite a faintly familiar air of being the Bookstore-in-disguise (with music), despite this, Hydra was a good thing: a two-day art-sale and show run completely by and for the benefit of the students. Come One! Come All! Buy! Browse! Do Your Thing! Groove!

Enough people took heed and did indeed "groove." Approximately 450 artists contributed the 705 works that were exhibited. Of these 705 pieces, approximately 100 works were mysteriously bought and spirited away by little ladies from Pawtucket — to the total tune of \$990, which pays a helluva lot of phone bills and rents, and buys a helluva lot of groceries. This may or may not be testimony to something a RISD instructor once told me: that an artist "often sells the shit and keeps his good things." Financial necessity, and all that. Along with these 705 pieces of creative effort were various other intriguing aspects to the Hydra Bazaar: a newsstand selling back issues of *Avatar* for those who would simply like to have the distinction of owning a complete collection of pre-crackdown specimens. Also a concession selling horrendously over-priced pseudo-Indian fashion musts for those who are in the know, or would like to be. Then of course there was the music . . . it was going, going, going all the time like an eight-group case of cacaphonic diarrhea. But there was a good thing, and those who caught "The Gizmos" will know what I mean. Outasite. On Saturday evening Dana Larabee presented his one-man production of "Bernini" which, in my opinion, was the most fantastic thing about the whole two nights. Larabee on the FCC would be the greatest thing going, as far as TV is concerned. Really elevate the medium. But most likely he would be ignored. Most good things are. They didn't like TW3 either. But that's another problem. Hydra is on trial here, and very much





**A Large thanks from everyone connected with Hydra to Mr. Jack Massey of the Faculty Exhibition Committee for his help in making Hydra possible.**

worth thinking about. I am not knocking Hydra. It was a very good thing — a damned good thing — taking it for what it was: something to do. People made Mem. Hall their weekend hangout because it was something else to do instead of hanging around Roz and Jack's or sitting around Homer Lounge, bitching. We could use Hydra. Hydra was not an expensive proposition. Entirely non-profit, it was run on \$20., with superb organization in categorizing, hanging and selling the mountain of work submitted. Nothing was lost, and everyone who sold work received their money. In the near future is planned a festival of student films, and all those interested in contributing spare celluloid or left-over 'Soph Des' projects should see Andrew Warde (not Warhol), BOX 587. He needs twenty-odd more minutes of visual excitement to make such an undertaking worth while. It, too, looks like a very good thing.

Hydra, as a whole, gives students the chance to see, and be seen through their work . . . a chance to sell work and see the work of other students. Having seen both the Faculty and the student shows (the former, on the whole, being quite good), I must say I prefer the latter; because of the lack of pretention of Hydra . . . the meandering, don't-give-a-damn, "do-your-thing," faintly humorous atmosphere characterized by the wholly student endeavor. A good thing. The "thing" being the principle behind Hydra: of, by, and for the students. And judging by the reaction of the students (contributing and non-contributing alike), we would do well to consider hearing a lot more from Hydra, and a lot more often . . . say, once a month. Not necessarily a repeat performance of last weekend, but something. We could really use it.

L. Rubin





## TRI-SEMESTER; MORE THAN A RUMOR

Since last spring, a special committee has been studying the practicality of an Intersession Calendar. This would involve an intersession term of about five weeks duration between the two semesters. There are several advantages to this plan.

The fall semester would end before Christmas vacation and would make Christmas a *real* vacation, one in which you won't have to work on (or worry about) projects that are due two or three weeks after you return.

The intersession would start upon return from Christmas vacation. It would be a refreshing change of pace. Rather than returning to do final projects (and to the post-Christmas slump), students would have new courses to study.

The spring semester would start in

mid-February and would end in May, as it does now.

There would be fall and spring recesses following mid-terms.

The intersession period would allow students to study professional electives other than in their major area of study. Junior, Senior and fifth-year students could elect to be absent for the intersession term. This would allow those students to work, travel, or just rest.

The original proposal was made by Dean Lay and was for a three-term calendar. Last spring, a special committee was appointed to study the plan. Soon, Mr. Luther, head of the department of architecture and representative of the committee, presented a revision, which was the intersession plan. The Instruction Committee discussed it and asked the faculty for descriptions of courses

to be offered during the intersession period. These descriptions have been received by Dean Hershey, and he is busy now formulating a synopsis of them. Later, the proposal will return to the Instruction Committee for further discussion. When they have it worked out satisfactorily they will propose it to the faculty. If the faculty accepts the plan, it will go into effect.

The outlook is favorable. Because of the plan's complexity, there are still questions to be answered and details to be worked out. How soon it will go into effect depends on how fast it can be worked out and on faculty acceptance. But the future looks good; so possibly as early as next year the intersession calendar will be a part of RISD's curriculum.

Ken Hartley

## Play About Wilde Follows Play By Wilde At Trinity Square Repertory Company

Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest" continues to play to high school audiences at the Rhode Island School of Design Theatre under the federally supported Project Discovery Program while the new play about Oscar Wilde, "Years of the Locust", rehearses under the direction of Trinity's Adrian Hall at the Trinity Square Playhouse.

The new play, by British playwright Norman Holland, had its world premiere

at the playhouse on Thursday, February 8 to 8p.m., and will continue for four weeks only, through March 2.

Ironically, "The Importance of Being Earnest" opened in 1895, the same year that Oscar Wilde was sentenced to two years in prison. The new play, in its world premiere production by the Trinity Square Repertory Company, deals with Wilde's years in a Victorian British prison, after his scandalous trial in 1895.

With the production of "Years of the Locust", following its production of "The Importance of Being Earnest", the Trinity Company will recreate these prison years.

When the new play, "Years of the Locust", closes on March 2, "The Importance of Being Earnest" will resume for two weeks for the high school students under Project Discovery, completing the series of performances for 40,000 Rhode Island students.

## DORM FEE RAISED

Rhode Island School of Design announced on Feb. 2, 1968, that it will increase its dormitory residence fee \$100 at the beginning of the 1968-69 academic year.

The fee now is \$950 a year. It will be increased to \$1,050. Tuition at the

school is \$1,800 a year. It will not be increased.

The school provides dormitories for all freshmen and sophomore women. There are about 390 students living in the dormitories of the school.

A spokesman for the school said that

the increase in the residence fee is necessary to meet the rising costs of food and maintenance. The operating expenses of the dormitories and the Metcalf Refectory increased by more than 15% during the past three years.



## THEY'RE COMING TO TAKE YOU AWAY, HA HA

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

"Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Jesus of Nazareth  
as interpreted and edited  
by Alex Silvestein

If you've a bike or a car and have a habit of collecting blue calling cards from the Providence fuzz — and ignoring selfsame cards — don't be surprised one night when you're lying nice and snug in bed with your sweetie at your side if afore-mentioned officers from the Law come and take you away and put you on their Group W bench down at headquarters while your woman is cold and lonely with only the fading scent of Jade East to reassure her that shortly before you were in her arms . . .

Such a scenario is not rare. When and if you are tagged for a violation you have approximately five days to make an appearance at the "Blue Tag Room" located at 209 Fountain Street, room 333, to settle your violation. You may also settle it by mail if you can stand the taste of stale stamps. If you don't show or neglect to mail, eventually two or three summonses wind up in your

possession ordering you to appear in court to answer for your scofflaw ways. There isn't any great rush — they'll give you time.

However, should you still persevere in tweaking the nose of the Police, they will tweak *your* nose, and often as not at three, four, or five o'clock in the morning (the assumption is, of course that you are home at that ungodly hour). You will be taken undoubtedly protesting — down to a headquarters special session before a judge and fined. If you're lacking cash you get a chance to phone the girl you left behind and have her come down with the bread.

It's not that they're orgres, but then it's not that you're stupid, either (are you?). It's a two way street, pal, be forewarned. But as they drag you off, just remember — "Let thy face be bright what time thou livest."

Gerard Del Monte

"Peace is a silent passion. It is a one-for-one relationship, a quiet persuasion. Totally, it is self-discipline and self-control. In the pursuit of peace you bite your tongue 100 times for every time you speak a word. The day-to-day encounter is maddening, not exhilarating. You give all of yourself; you get nothing but seasoning. Peace is a process of bitter encounters with reality. It is fit work for rare people."

JACK VAUGHAN, Director of the Peace Corps

This week is Peace Corps Week at RISD — a perfect time to find out what YOU can do for peace. Jean Calamari and Mike Jerald will be in the student lounge in the College Building on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Take a few minutes to stop and talk. Who knows, you could end up in Mozambique for two years.





BIG BROTHER & THE HOLDING COMPANY



**Friday, Feb. 23, Tab Show**

**at 7:30 p.m. in Auditorium; \$2.00**

**Semi-formal at the Sheraton Biltmore**

**9 to 1 a.m.; \$1.50; "Grease"**

**Saturday, Feb. 24, Formal**

**Sheraton Biltmore; 9 to 1 a.m.; \$3.00**

**THE CHAMBERS BROTHERS**

**"Fred McCoy Quartet"**

**Sunday, Feb. 25, Concert in Refectory**

**BIG BROTHER and the HOLDING COMPANY**

**"The Soup"; \$3.00**

**TAKE A BREAK**



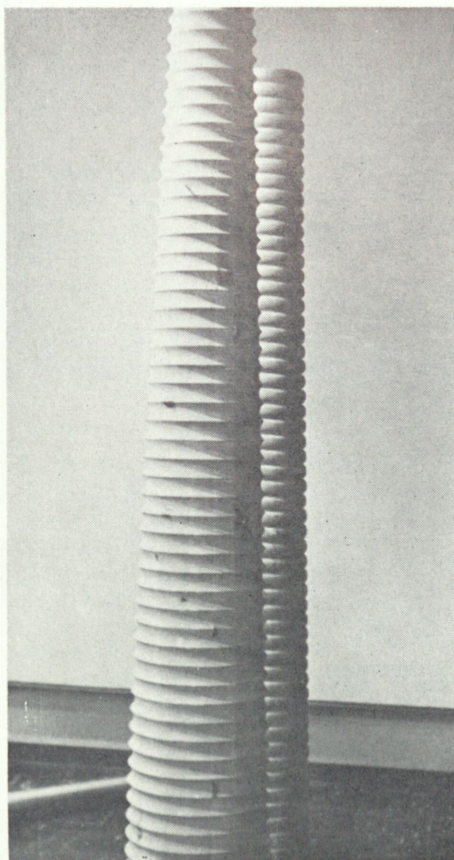
## APOLOGIES FROM TAB

To those who objected to the tone of my warnings in the last article, I must clarify myself. We do not mean to sound hostile towards dress, we only want to save you from getting turned away at the door. And, though we will be overjoyed with almost anything we just don't want jeans and such. Don't think we're hostile or mean.

To those who noticed the failure of the figures to add up to \$9.50, I must similarly apologize: I printed the figures exactly as John Juros gave them to me shortsightedly without even checking. The extra is on the semi-formal. I'm sorry the tickets for everything aren't less.

To those who have been cowed and threatened instead of elevated and filled with passion by my advice, let me say this: Tab is, as serious as it may sound, at heart, just a big giggle and a great drunk (if such is your desire). It is a bit more civilized than refectory dances, more refined (the cops are on our side!) than the tent dance and an incredible amount of fun with enough diversions that you don't even really have to worry excessively about getting stuck with a rotten date.

Crazy Steve



## THE TIMELY DEATH OF THE BASKETBALL

Team, that ill-fated child of misfortune so sadly misplaced, need not be mourned by those who fear that complete death of sports, lust and school spirit here at RISD. That banner so proudly borne last spring by the Crystal Tap Soccer Team is now being carried to new triumphs by the RISD . . . HOCKEY TEAM!!!! Yet, to judge by the attendance at the games, so conveniently located at our sister institution's fine rink, and totally free, these climaxes must take place in near obscurity.

Our team embodies all the virtues we cherish; performing with unprepared erraticness, sudden violence, and frequent flashes of staggering, overwhelming talent. If they do not often practice, it is that they might not totally overwhelm their opponents.

It is the best of sports for people who generally hate sports. And good fun even if you care about them. You can scream off your head, get drunk, stay calm, hold hands or anything, and no-one but those blinded with lust for victory could fail to enjoy it.



## DEAR CHICKENHEARTS

Dear Chickenhearts,

It was only yesterday that I had come across your column. First off, I would like to congratulate you on your brave new attempt. Now, for my first problem:

It's about my dear Mother. I received a distressing letter from my father relating to me that she (my mother) has been missing for the past 18 months. She was last seen by the Police dusting a 75 watt light bulb at the O.K. Pool Parlor in Trenton, New Jersey. I was wondering if you could explain why, after 21 years of marriage, a devoted mother would suddenly abandon all? Please, Chickenhearts, any word of enlightenment would be dearly appreciated.

Alberta Cranscratch  
Box 52

Dear Alberta,

In all, my book last published at edition in a paperback, I have chapter five and six revealing that recent studies by a team of General Electrics has also discovered that by freak of natures and partly a bad goof, a flask of vile male hormones was dropped into a tub of light bulb substance. Consequently, so be it that due to this, many mothers after many-a-month of changing these lightbulbs have gone wild and ape resulting in these strange matriarchal happenings. Too bad honey you just ain't got WATT it takes. Drink plenty of juices and get plenty of sleep and maybe Mommie will get over it.

Dear Chickenhearts,

After reading your "installment" in BLOCKPRINT, I suddenly realized that you are quite insane. It is my opinion that people like you should not be allowed to walk the streets. Where did you learn your English anyway?

P. T. Gripe

Dear Gripe,

How come it is that I, poor can of vegetables that I am, must bear the insults of such as your likes. My mind isn't your fault and shouldn't be of your mind. Poo on you. Go away from my sphere of existence. Chickenhearts shall endure because Chickenhearts is a thing forever. So there!

## SOUP

What is soup? Warm, runny, and full of stuff. Soup is like life itself. And Soup — or "El Soup" as they are known to their fans south of the border — will be on stage, under Big Brother and the Holding Company, in the Refectory on February 25.

Questioned about rumors that their performance would usher in a new era in musical history, spokesman General Lee Wastewood declined comment. Yet still the whispered promises of a new, mind-narrowing sound runrife. "It should be very much like life itself," he added. "Don't fail to miss it."

Soup has been training for the show on a strict minibiotic diet of mayonnaise and Vita Yums. "After all," concluded wastewood, "your health is more important."

At last, a musical group has come to the fore with the guts to handle issues like sanitation and exhibitionism. Can this be the voice of generations yet unborn? As Voltaire said, "If it's too silly to say, sing it."

**If you have ever found yourself saying that Blockprint really rofs, (and thats about everybody), do something about it! BP meets every Wednesday night in the room above the gym, across from the SAO.**

**BP: THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR A WRITER - AND WE WANT ONE FOR FEATURE STORIES - PUT YOUR NAME AND BOX NUMBER IN BP BOX IN SAO - MANY OTHER POSITIONS OPEN ON THE NEWLY FORMED STAFF.**

**Meeting of Complete BP Staff and Prospective Members, Monday, Tonight 7:00 CB Student Lounge.**

## CALENDAR

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12:

11:30-12:30 — Tux's for Tab, fittings in Refectory  
2:00 p.m. — 412 — Recruiting — Shady Hills School. (Placement)  
7:30 p.m. — Worcester — Hockey with Worcester Junior College

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13:

1:00 p.m. — Student Lounge — Tape Forum  
12:00 noon — Gym — Dance Class  
3:00 p.m. — 432 — Sound Workshop  
7:00 p.m. — Homer Study Lounge — Sailing Club elections — new members welcome  
7:30 p.m. — 430 — Dr. Reed — Seminar  
9:00 p.m. — Tennis Club — sign up at SAO

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14:

10:00 a.m. — 412 — Peace Corps  
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. — Student Lounge — Recruiting Peace Corps  
7:00 p.m. — Student Lounge — Newman Club Meeting  
11:30 - 2:00 p.m. — Student Lounge Cap and Gown measurements

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15:

10:00 a.m. — 412 — Peace Corps  
9 - 1:00 p.m. and 2-4:00 p.m. — Student Lounge — Peace Corps recruiting  
12:00 noon — Gym — Dance Class  
1:00 p.m. — Student Lounge — Tape Forum  
6:00 p.m. — Boy's Club — Swimming

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16:

9:30 a.m. — Mem. Hall — Peace Corps — movie  
9 - 4:00 p.m. — Student Lounge — Recruiting — Peace Corps  
2-5:00 p.m. — 430 — Recruiting  
8:00 p.m. — Tennis Club — Tennis — sign up at SAO

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18:

7:00 p.m. — Upper Refectory — Catholic Mass  
7:00 p.m. — Meehan Audit. — Hockey practice.



